

MICHIGAN OPERATION

MiOFO

FREEDOM OUTDOORS



A Briefing

Mission

"To provide improved outdoor recreation opportunities for wounded veterans and individuals with health challenges; and, to coordinate a support network that facilitates their recovery through connecting with nature."



Partners:



Support:



Action Trackchair



Cabela's
WORLD'S FOREMOST OUTFITTER

GARMIN®

meijer®

COSTCO
WHOLESALE



Original Objectives

- 1) **Minimize physical barriers** to access and enjoyment of SGAs and wildlife-related recreation.
- 2) **Remove logistical barriers** to access and enjoyment of SGAs and wildlife-related recreation.
- 3) **Monitor and evaluate** the success of the MiOFO effort at the preliminary project area (Sharonville SGA).
- 4) At the end of five years, use what we've learned to **establish similar projects** on public lands in other parts of the state.



Physical Barriers

- Things that physically restrict people from using recreational resources:



- Inaccessible parking lots
- Inaccessible gates & barriers
- Lack of access trails
- Lack of accessible hunting/viewing locations
- Lack of appropriate mobility equipment

Logistical Barriers

- Things that keep people from attempting to participate in outdoor recreation:



- Lack of personal assistance/care
- Lack of transportation
- Lack of lodging
- Lack of support (emotional/motivational)
- Lack of knowledge of available resources
- Getting started



Services Coordinated

- Hunting & Outdoor Recreation Opportunities
- Places to Go
- Events to Participate In
- Blind Reservations
- Guiding/Assistance
- Track Chair Use
- Transportation
- Overnight Stays
- Info. Dissemination
- Recovery Services



Contributions from Local Businesses Help MiOFO Provide Services





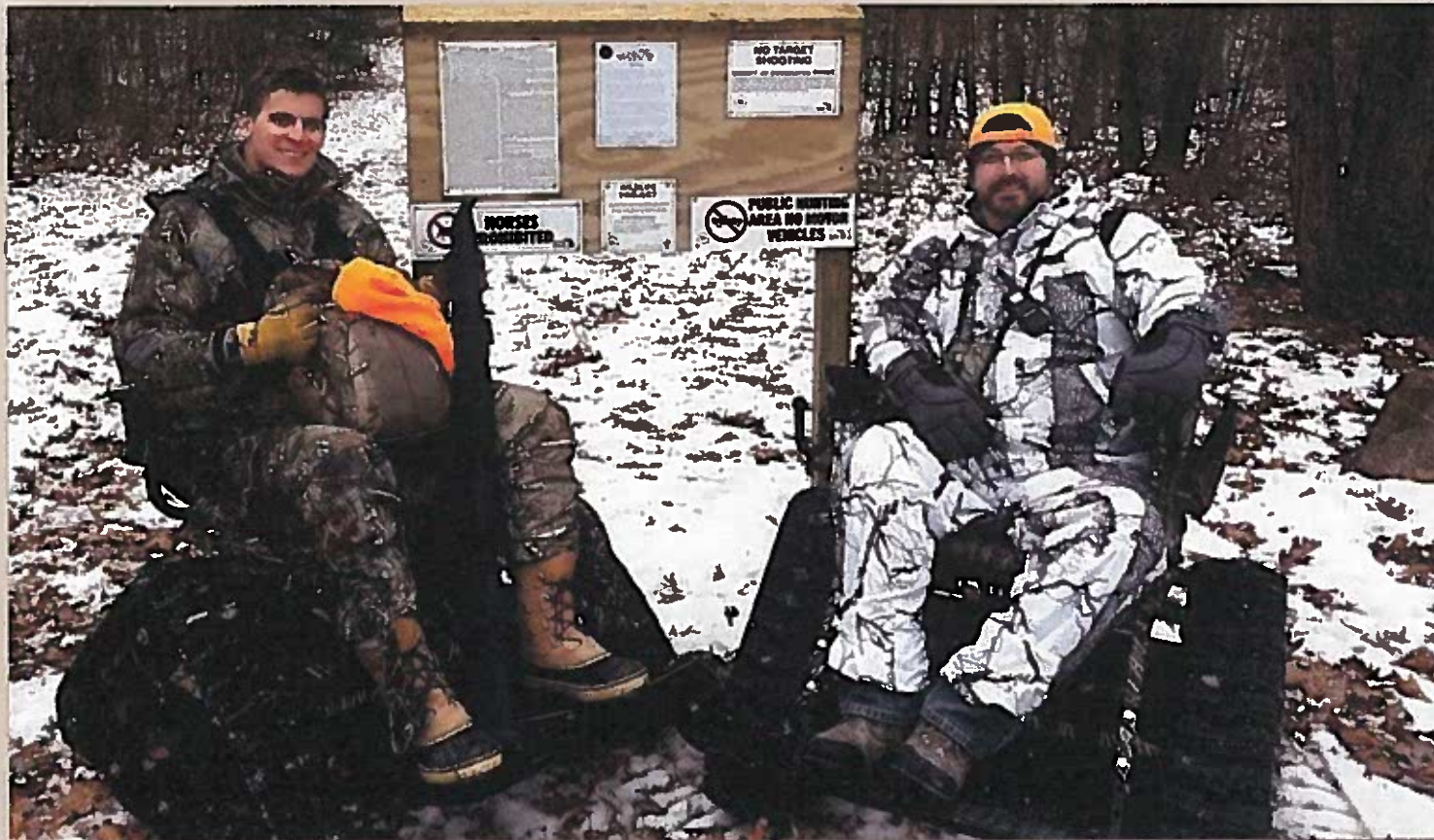
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Comradery \Rightarrow Therapy

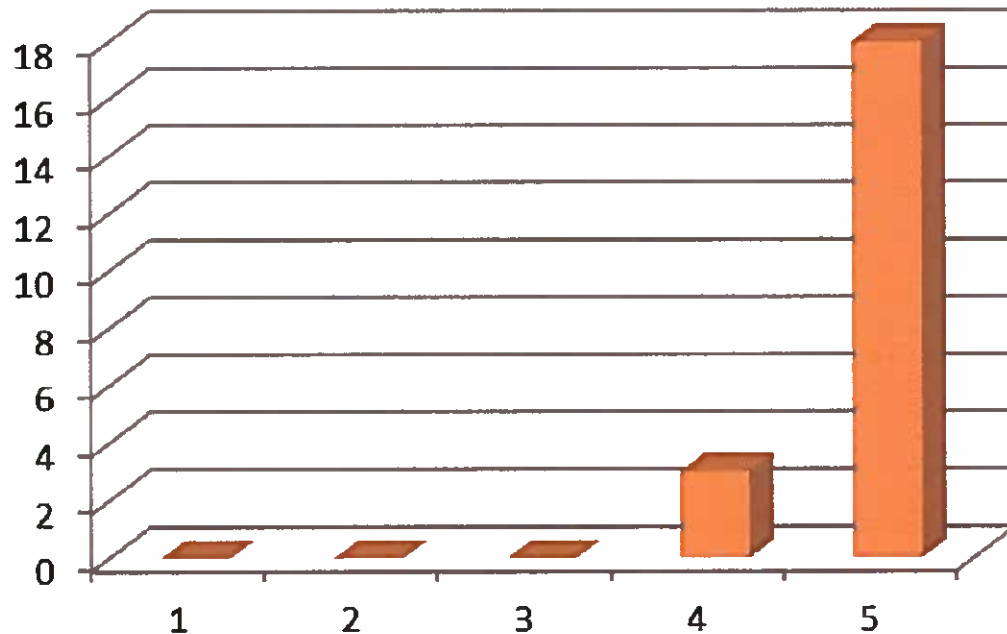


Independence \Rightarrow Recovery



Survey of Participant Satisfaction

Rate 1-5



1=Awful, 2=Poor, 3=Indifferent, 4=Good, 5=Awesome

- Participants were very satisfied with their experience
- They enjoyed the rustic nature of the activities (not looking for "resort" experience)
- Comradery & feeling of independence were most significant outcomes for participants



Moving Forward

- MiOFO Partnership Created: August 2013
- Program Coordinator Hired by Eisenhower Center: July 2014
- First MiOFO Hunt: September 2014
- Expanded Opportunities: Continue
 - Special Hunts on Public Land
 - Hunting Access on Private & County Lands
 - Fishing, Birding, Nature Walks, & Sporting Events
- Creation of MiOFO 501c3: 2017
- As MiOFO Grows, Identify Needs Need to be Sustainable



Program Needs

Operational

New, F250 four wheel drive pickup, wrapped (minimum of one truck)	\$ 70,000.00
Rough terrain golf cart	\$ 12,000.00
ADA UTV plus trailer	\$ 27,000.00
Four Action Trackchairs	\$ 50,000.00
Four ADA accessible trailer/hard shell blinds	\$ 20,000.00

Heaters, chairs, lanterns, coffee pots, ext. cords, generator, field dressing kits, water station, deer cart, tent, heat source, maintenance of Trackchairs and elevated blind.	\$ 6,000.00
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Lodging for volunteers (including expo's, hunts, special events)	\$ 8,000.00
Meals for participants and volunteers	\$ 4,000.00

Administrative

Insurance/Web	\$ 3,000.00
Cell phone w/ unlimited data plan	\$ 2,400.00

Annual Events

Expo rental/shirts/jackets/hats/handouts	\$ 5,000.00
David Pollie Classic	\$ 15,000.00

Total	\$222,400.00
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Questions? Shoot.



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Helping People Come Back to the Outdoors